

## COVID-19

The Shastri Indo-Canadian Institute (SICI) is closely monitoring all available information on the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as the policies and advisories being issued by the Government of India and by the Government of Canada and the provinces.

The health and well-being of everyone associated with SICI, particularly the award-holders currently studying or researching in Canada and India, is the first and overriding priority of the Institute.

All SICI award-holders are expected to follow the guidance of the respective governments, and (where applicable) of their home universities, with respect to international travel.

All new international travel, whether for research purposes or to take up a study award, should be postponed until the restrictions associated with COVID-19 have ended. In the event that changes in travel plans may incur forfeiture of non-refundable travel costs, this will be an acceptable expense under SICI programs.

While, in general, SICI encourages award-holders to return to their home country (India or Canada) for the duration of the COVID-19 emergency — and requires that in all cases, applicable government and university guidance be followed — in the event that any award-holders are already in the host country and opt to remain for a period of time that is permissible under the relevant guidance, it will be their responsibility to ensure that they have adequate insurance coverage.

SICI stands ready to offer advice, assistance, and support to all program participants. The SICI office in Delhi has reduced its in-person interactions to minimal therefore, will be coordinating these services virtually and may be contacted:

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